

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides novel polynucleotides encoding MP-1 polypeptides, fragments and homologues thereof. Also provided are vectors, host cells, antibodies, and recombinant and synthetic methods for producing said

5 polypeptides. The invention further relates to diagnostic and therapeutic methods for applying these novel MP-1 polypeptides to the diagnosis, treatment, and/or prevention of various diseases and/or disorders related to these polypeptides. The invention further relates to screening methods for identifying agonists and antagonists of the polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention.